

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): ~~Device~~ A device for processing the surface of a container, in which the processing is accomplished by a low-pressure plasma, by excitation of a reaction fluid with microwave electromagnetic waves, the device for processing comprising:

~~and in which the container is placed in an enclosure (12) in which the container is placed,~~
the container having an elongated neck portion, the enclosure being made of a conductive material, inside of which the enclosure, the microwaves are introduced by means of a coupling device;

a device extending into the enclosure to hold the neck of the container;

~~characterized in that wherein~~ the enclosure (12) is a cylinder ~~and provided so that its~~
central axis is a main axis (A1) of the container (24), ~~in such~~ that the coupling device has a wave guide tunnel (15) which extends ~~in a direction substantially perpendicular to~~ towards the main
axis (A1) of the enclosure and which is provided within a window of ~~one a~~ wall of the enclosure,
said wave guide tunnel projected on a plane tangent to the enclosure, ~~and~~ is rectangular in shape,
the smaller dimension of ~~which the~~ rectangle corresponds to its dimension along the direction of
the axis of the enclosure, and

wherein in that the inside diameter of the enclosure (12) is such that the microwaves are
propagated in the enclosure primarily according to a mode in which ~~the an~~ electrical field,

resulting from the propagation of the microwaves, has an axial symmetry with respect to the central axis of the enclosure.

2. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein when the microwaves are introduced into the enclosure (12) in the absence of a container (24), the variation of intensity of the electrical field has two maximums on one radius of the enclosure.

3. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microwaves have a frequency of 2.45 GHz, and ~~in that~~ the inside diameter of the enclosure (12) is between 213 and 217 mm.

4. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that,~~ wherein when the microwaves are introduced into the enclosure in the absence of a container, the variation of intensity of the electrical field has three maximums on one radius of the enclosure.

5. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the microwaves have a frequency of 2.45 GHz and the inside diameter of the enclosure (12) is between 334 and 340 mm.

6. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that,~~
wherein when the microwaves are introduced into the enclosure in the absence of a container, the
variation of intensity of the electrical field has four maximums on one radius of the enclosure.

7. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 6, ~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein the microwaves have a frequency of 2.45 GHz and the inside diameter of the
enclosure is between 455 and 465 mm.

8. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the wave guide tunnel (15) has a rectangular cross section.

9. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the microwaves have a frequency of 2.45 GHz, and the dimensions of the cross section
of the wave guide tunnel (15) are substantially 43 mm along the direction of the main axis (A1)
of the enclosure (12) and substantially 86 mm along ~~the~~ a direction perpendicular direction to the
main axis.

10. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the reaction fluid is introduced into the container (24) in such a way that the processing
is applied to the inner face of the container.

11. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the reaction fluid is introduced into the enclosure-(12), outside the container-(24), in such a way that the processing is applied to the outer face of the container.

12. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein inside the enclosure-(12), a cavity (18) is delimited by a wall (10) made of a material that is appreciably transparent to the microwaves, and the container (24) is received inside the cavity-(18).

13. (currently amended): The device ~~Device~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein ~~the treatment includes a step in which~~ a material is deposited by the low-pressure plasma.